GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:344
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015
Launch of SAARC Satellite
Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan;Innocent Shri ;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

a) whether Government is generating any income through various satellites launch missions conducted by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and through the launching of satellites of foreign countries and if so, the details thereof;

b) the future course of action plan in this regard;

c) whether the Government is contemplating to launch satellite project of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation countries;

d) if so, the details and objectives thereof; and

e) the cost sharing model for launching of the satellites?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) Government, through Antrix Corporation Limited (Antrix), the commercial arm of Department of Space, is generating income through launching of satellites of foreign countries on-board ISRO's launch vehicle. Till date, 45 satellites from 19 countries have been successfully launched using ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), under commercial arrangement. The total income earned through launching of these satellites of foreign countries amounts to approximately 17 Million USD and 78.5 Million Euros. The launch missions conducted by ISRO for launching Indian satellites are intended for National development.

(b) Antrix has signed agreements for launching 28 more foreign satellites from 6 countries viz., Algeria (3), Canada (4), Germany (4), Indonesia (2), Singapore (6) and USA (9). The launches of these foreign satellites are envisaged during 2015-2017 time period. Further, discussions with foreign agencies/companies are ongoing for providing launch services to their satellites on-board ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).

(c) Yes Madam.

(d) Government is planning to provide space based systems for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation countries. The objective of this satellite project is to develop a satellite for SAARC region that enables a full range of applications and services to all our neighbours in the areas of telecommunication and broadcasting applications viz. Television, Direct-to-Home (DTH), Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs), Tele-education, Telemedicine and Disaster Management.

(e) While the cost towards building and launching the satellite will be met by Government of India, cost towards ground systems are expected to be sourced by the respective SAARC countries.

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